J. Bruce Llewellyn is an entrepreneur with a business record that matches his stature. Among several other businesses, Llewellyn owns the Philadelphia Coca-Cola Bottling Co., the third largest African American owned company in America.

The son of Jamaican immigrants, Llewellyn grew up workin in his father’s restaurant in White Plains, New York. He joined the army at age sixteen, and then used his severance pay four years later to open a liquor store in Harlem and to finance his education. He received a degree in public administration from New York University, a Master’s degree in Business Administration from Columbia University, and law degree from the New York Law School.

In 1978, President Jimmy Carter asked Llwewellyn to be Scretary of the Armmy, but he turned it down because the position did not involve business. He accepte3d Carter’s second offer to join the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, though. This poisistion gave him the opportunity to negotiate with foreign ministers and heads of state on large-score invstmt projects.

Llewellyn teamed up wwith basketball star “Dr.“ Julius erving and entertainer Bill Cosby to purchase one-third of the Coca-Cola Bottling Company of new York in 1983. In 1985, Llewellyn, Erving, and Cosby sold the New Yorik Coca-Cola shares and purchased the entire Philadelphia Coca-Cola bottling Company, which flourished under Llewellyn’s charge.

Friends and associates credit the success of J. Bruce Llewellyn to his intelligence, he upbeat attitude, and his entrepreneurial knack of being able to organize business.